

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information display apparatus comprising:

a display device configured to display a video;

a speech detection unit configured to detect a playback state of a playback speech, the playback state including at least one of a sound volume of the playback speech and a playback speed;

a closed caption generating unit configured to generate a closed caption video comprising character information associated with the playback speech; and

a closed caption display control unit configured to display the closed caption video on the display device and to change a display state of the closed caption video depending upon the detected playback state detected by the speech detection unit.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein ~~the speech detection unit detects a sound volume of the playback speech and inputs it to the closed caption display control unit as the playback state, and the closed caption display control unit changes the display state when the sound volume of the playback speech is not more than a given level.~~

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the speech detection unit detects that the playback speech is silent, and ~~input~~ inputs it to the closed caption display control unit as the playback state, and the closed caption display control unit ~~change~~ changes the display state when the playback state is a state that the playback speech is silent.

Claim 4 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 3, which includes a playback unit configured to playback a video and a speech from a recording medium and a playback control unit configured to control the playback state of the speech and a playback state of the video, the playback control unit changing the display state by making the playback speech to be silent when the playback state is a playback state other than a normal forward playback.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, which includes an ambient noise detection unit configured to detect a noise level of an ambient noise, and wherein the speech detection unit detects a sound volume of the playback speech and ~~input~~ inputs it to the closed caption display control unit as the playback state, and the closed caption display control unit changes the display state when the sound volume of the playback speech is not more than a playback reference level determined by the noise level.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the closed caption display control unit includes a plurality of conditions concerning the playback state and determines satisfaction of the conditions in comparison with the playback state at the present moment, and the closed caption display control unit changes the display state of the character information when either of the conditions is satisfied or all of them fail ~~fails~~ to be satisfied, or when neither of the condition is satisfied or all of them are satisfied.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The information display apparatus according to claim 1, which includes a speech selection unit configured to select a speech to be played back from a plurality of speeches including a main speech and a speech other than the main speech, the plurality of speech being associated with the video, and wherein the closed caption display control unit changes the display state of the character information when the speech other than the main speech is selected.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The information display apparatus according to claim 1, which includes a video language selection unit configured to select a language of the video and a speech selection unit configured to select a speech to be played back from a plurality of speeches associated with the video, and the ~~subtitles~~ closed caption display control unit changes the display state of the character information when a language concerning the speech selected by the speech selection unit differs from the language of the speech of the video selected by the video language selection unit.

Claim 9 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the closed caption display control unit changes the display state to a display size larger than a normal size.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when the closed caption generating unit extracts the character information embedded in a television video signal, generates an image of a to-be-displayed closed caption based on the extracted character information, and outputs a video signal ~~embedding~~ superimposing the image of the closed caption.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein when the closed caption generating unit generates an image of a to-be-displayed closed caption based on the ~~characters~~ character information ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to the speech information, and outputs a video signal ~~embedding~~ superimposing the image of the closed caption.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An information display apparatus comprising:
a display device configured to display a video;

an ambient noise detection unit configured to determine ~~an ambient~~ a noise level of an ambient noise other than a playback speech referring to a playback speech signal via a microphone;

a closed caption display unit configured to display, on the display device, character information associated with the playback speech; and

a closed caption display control unit configured to change according to the detected noise level a display state of the character information that is displayed on the display device by the closed caption display unit.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the closed caption display control unit changes the display state when the ambient noise ~~level~~ is higher than a given level.

Claim 14 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the closed caption display control unit changes the display state to a display size larger than a normal size.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein when the ~~subtitles~~ closed caption display unit displays the character information on the display device, the closed caption display control unit extracts the character information embedded on a television video signal, generates an image of a to-be-displayed closed caption based on the extracted character information, and outputs a video signal superimposing the image of the closed caption.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein when the ~~subtitles~~ closed caption display unit displays the character information on the display device, the closed caption display control unit generates an image of a to-be-displayed closed

caption based on the ~~characters~~ character information ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to the speech information, and outputs a video signal superimposing the image of the closed caption.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): An information display apparatus using a storage medium storing a video and a speech, comprising:

a playback unit configured to playback the video and the speech from the storage medium;

a playback control unit configured to control the playback unit to control a playback state and playback sound volume;

a display device configured to display the playback video;

a playback ~~control unit~~ state detector configured to ~~control a~~ detect the playback state of the video and the speech that are played back by the playback unit;

a closed caption display unit configured to display, on the display device, character information associated with the speech;

a closed caption display control unit configured to change according to the playback state a display state of the character information displayed on the display device by the closed caption display unit.

Claim 18 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the closed caption display control unit determines whether a playback speed is an equal speed and changes the display state of the character information when the playback speed fails to be the equal speed.

Claim 19 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the closed caption display control unit determines whether a playback speed is in a given range and changes the

display state of the character information when the playback speed fails to be in the given range.

Claim 20 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the closed caption display control unit determines whether a playback direction is a forward direction and changes the display state of the character information when the playback direction fails to be the forward direction.

Claim 21 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the closed caption display control unit determines whether the playback state is a pause state and changes the display state of the character information when the playback state is the pause state.

Claim 22 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the closed caption display control unit changes the display state of the character information when the sound volume is not more than a given level.

Claim 23 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 17, which includes an ambient noise detection unit configured to detect a noise level of an ambient noise, and wherein the closed caption display control unit changes the display state of the character information when a sound volume of the playback speech is not more than a reference level determined according to the noise level.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the closed caption display control unit includes a plurality of conditions concerning the playback state and determines satisfaction of the conditions in comparison with the playback state at the present moment, and the closed caption display control unit changes the display state of

the character information when either of the conditions is satisfied or all of them ~~fails~~ fail to be satisfied, or when neither of the ~~condition~~ conditions is satisfied or all of them are satisfied.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The information display apparatus according to claim 17, which includes a speech selection unit configured to select a speech to be played back from a plurality of speeches including a main speech and a speech other than the main speech, the plurality of ~~speech~~ speeches being associated with the video, and wherein the closed caption display control unit changes the display state of the character information when the speech other than the main speech is selected.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The information display apparatus according to claim 17, which includes a video language selection unit configured to select a language of the video and a speech selection unit configured to select a speech to be played back from a plurality of speeches associated with the video, and the ~~subtitles~~ closed caption display control unit changes the display state of the character information when a language concerning the speech selected by the speech selection unit differs from the language of the speech of the video selected by the video language selection unit.

Claim 27 (Original): The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the closed caption display control unit changes the display state to a display size larger than a normal size.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein when the ~~subtitles~~ closed caption display unit displays the character information on the display device, the closed caption display control unit extracts the character information embedded in a television video signal, generates an image of a to-be-displayed closed caption based on the

extracted character information, and outputs a video signal ~~embedded~~ superimposing the image of the closed caption.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein when the ~~subtitles~~ closed caption display unit displays the character information on the display device, the closed caption display control unit generates an image of a to-be-displayed closed caption based on the characters information ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to the speech information, and outputs a video signal superimposing the image of the closed caption.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): An information display apparatus comprising:
a playback unit configured to playback a video and a speech;
a display device configured to display the video;
a ~~subtitles~~ closed caption display unit configured to generate character information associated with the video and the speech and display it on the display device;
a display selection unit configured to select a multi-screen display mode for displaying a plurality of videos on multi-screens or a single-screen display mode for displaying a single video on a single screen; and
a closed caption display control unit configured to change a display state of the character information concerning each of the videos displayed on the multi-screens when the multi-screen display mode is selected.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 30, which includes a speech control unit configured to control the display selection unit to select one of the multi-screens and output a speech, and wherein the closed caption display control unit ~~change~~ changes the display state of the character information with respect to each of the screens other than the one of the screens that is selected by the speech control unit.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to ~~according to~~ claim 30, wherein the closed caption display control unit changes the display state to a display size larger than a normal size.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 30, wherein when the ~~subtitles~~ closed caption display unit displays the character information on the display device, the closed caption display control unit extracts the character information embedded in a television video signal, generates an image of a to-be-displayed closed caption based on the extracted character information, and outputs a video signal ~~embedded~~ superimposing the image of the closed caption.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): The apparatus according to claim 30, wherein when the ~~subtitles~~ closed caption display unit displays the character information on the display device, the closed caption display control unit generates an image of a to-be-displayed closed caption based on the ~~characters~~ character information ~~corresponded~~ corresponding to the speech information, and outputs a video signal superimposing the image of the closed caption.

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): An information display method comprising:
generating a playback speech;
detecting a playback state of the playback speech, the playback state including at least one of a sound volume of the playback speech and a playback speed; and
changing a display state of character information associated with the playback speech according to the detected playback state.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): An information display method comprising:
generating a playback speech;
determining a noise level of an ambient noise other than the playback speech referring to a playback speech signal via a microphone; and
changing a display state of the character information associated with the playback speech according to the noise level.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): An information display method comprising:
playing back a video and a speech from a storage medium;
controlling a playback state of the video and the speech;
detecting the playback state of the video and the speech that are played back; and
changing a display state of character information associated with the video and the speech according to the playback state.

Claim 38 (Original): An information display method comprising:
selecting a single-screen display mode or a multi-screen display mode;
playing back a video and a speech with respect to a single screen on the single-screen display mode and each of a plurality of screens on the multi-screen display mode; and
changing a display state of the character information associated with the video and the speech with respect to each of the screens when the multi-screen display mode is selected.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): A program stored in a computer readable medium for displaying character information on a display device, comprising:
means for instructing a computer to playback a video and a speech from a recording medium;

means for instructing the computer to control a playback state and playback sound volume;

means for instructing the computer to detect the playback state of the video and the speech that are played back;

means for instructing the computer to change a playback state of the video and the speech;

means for instructing the computer to display character information associated with the video and the speech; and

means for instructing the computer to change a display state of the character information according to the ~~display~~ playback state of the video and the speech.